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BY FRANCIS M. PAUL.

WEDNESDAY MORNING, DEC. 10, 1862.

LINCOLN'S MESSAGE TO CONGRESS.

We appropriate nearly all our available space this morning to the Message of Abraham Lincoln to the Federal Congress. The document possesses little importance, and in point of style would disgrace a half-educated schoolboy, but it's a matter of historical interest we place it on record:

PREFATORY.

Fellow-citizens of the Senate and House of Representatives:

Since your last annual assembling another year of health and bountiful harvests has passed; and whilst it has not pleased the Almighty to bless us with a return of peace, we can but press on, guided by the best light he gives us, trusting that in his own good time and wise way all will yet be well.

THE RELATIONS BETWEEN THE NORTH AND FOREIGN POWERS.

The correspondence touching foreign affairs which has taken place during the last year is herewith submitted, in virtual compliance with a request to that effect made by the House of Representatives near the close of the last session of Congress.

If the condition of our relations with other nations is less gratifying than it has usually been at former periods, it is certainly more satisfactory than a nation so unduly disgraced as we are, might reasonably have apprehended. In the month of June last there were some grounds to expect that the maritime powers which, at the beginning of our domestic difficulties, so unwisely and unmercifully as we think, recognized the insurgents as a belligerent, would soon recede from that position, which has proved only less injurious to themselves, than to our own country. But the temporary reverses which afterwards befell the national arms, and which were exaggerated by our own disloyal citizens abroad, have hitherto delayed that act of simple justice.

The civil war, which has so radically changed for the moment the occupations and habits of the American people, has necessarily disturbed the social condition, and affected very deeply the prosperity of the nation, with which we have carried on a commerce that has been steadily increasing throughout a period of half a century. It has at the same time excited political agitations and aspirations which have produced a profound agitation throughout the civilized world. In this annual agitation we have, heretofore from a king and his confederates, but one foreign State, Liberia, and Hayti, as yet, the only countries to which exodus of African descent from here, could go with certainty of being received and adopted as citizens; and I regret to say such persons contemplating colonization, do not seem willing to migrate to those countries as to any others, nor, as we may, as I think, their interest demands. I believe, however, opinion among them in this respect is improving, and that our foreign friends will be augmented under existing circumstances to both these countries from the United States.

A LINE OF TRADE WITH EUROPE RECOMMENDED.

I have favored the project of connecting the United States with Europe by an Atlantic steamer, and also a project to extend the telegraph from San Francisco to connect with the Pacific Telegraph with which our line is being extended across the Irian Empire.

THE FINAMENTS OF THE UNITED STATES.

The territories of the United States, with important exceptions, are now, and unbroken by foreign nations with references less to its own merits, than to its suppressed, and often exaggerated effects and consequences resulting to those nations themselves. Nevertheless, complaint on the part of this Government, even if it were just, would certainly be untrue.

The treaty with Great Britain, for the suppression of the slave trade, has been put into operation with a good prospect of complete success. It is an occasion of special pleasure to acknowledge that the execution of it, on the part of Her Majesty's Government, has been marked with a jealous respect for the authority of the United States, and the rights of their loyal and loyal citizens.

The convention with France for the abolition of the State dues has been carried into full effect, under the act of Congress for that purpose.

The new commercial treaty between the United States and the Sultan of Turkey has been carried into execution.

A commercial and consular treaty has been negotiated, subject to the Senate's consent, with Liberia; and a similar negotiation is now pending with the republic of Hayti. A considerable improvement of the national commerce is expected to result from these measures.

Our relations with Great Britain, France, Spain, Portugal, Russia, Prussia, Denmark, Sweden, Austria, the Netherlands, Italy, Rome, and the other European States remain undisturbed. Very favorable relations also continue to be maintained with Turkey, Morocco, China and Japan.

During the last year there has not only been no change of our previous relations with the independent States of our own continent, but more friendly sentiments than have heretofore existed are believed to be entertained by these neighbours, whose safety and progress are so intimately connected with our own. This statement especially applies to Mexico, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Honduras, Peru and Chile.

The commission under the convention with the Republic of New Georgia closed its session without having arbitrated and passed on all the claims which were submitted to it. A proposition is pending to revise the convention so that U. S. may be able to do more complete justice. This joint commission between the United States and the Republic of Costa Rica has completed its labours and submitted its report.

THE BLOCKADE AND THE COMPLAINTS OF FOREIGN POWERS ARISING FROM IT.

A blockade of three thousand miles of coast could not be established, and vigorously enforced in a sea on so great a commercial activity like the present, without committing extensive injuries, and inflicting unintentional injuries upon foreign nations and their subjects.

A civil war occurring in a country where foreigners reside and carry on the trade under treaty stipulations is necessary, fruitful, of complaints of the violation of neutral rights. All such collisions tend to excite misapprehensions, and possibly to produce mutual rejections between nations which have a common interest in preserving peace and neutrality. In such cases of these kinds

have, so far as possible, heard and redressed complaints which have been presented by friendly powers. There is still, however, a large and an increasing number of doubtful cases upon which the Government is unable to agree with the Governments whose protection is demanded by the claimants. There are, moreover, many cases in which the U. S. or their citizens, suffer wrongs in the imperial or military authorities of foreign nations, which the Governments of those States are not at once prepared to redress. I have proposed to some of the foreign States thus interested, mutual conventions to examine and adjust such complaints. This proposition has been made especially to Great Britain, France, to Spain and to Russia. In each case it has not yet been formally adopted.

I desire it my duty to recommend an approach in behalf of the owners of the Norwegian bark Admiral P. Tordenskjold, which vessel was, in May, 1862, presented by the commander of one of the blockading forces of Charleston from having that port with cargo notwithstanding a claim of privilege had, shortly before, been granted to an English vessel.

I have directed the Secretary of State to cause the papers in the case to be communicated to the proper committee.

THE COLONIZATION OF BLACKS.

Applications have been made to me by my free Americans of African descent to favor their emigration, with a view to such colonization as was contemplated in recent acts of Congress. Other parties, at home and abroad—some from interested motives, others upon patriotic considerations, and still others influenced by proslavery sentiments—have suggested similar measures, while, on the other hand, several of the Spanish-American republics have protested against the sending of such colonies to their respective territories. Under these circumstances, I have declined to give any such colony to any State without first obtaining the consent of its Government, with an agreement on its part to receive and protect such immigrants in all the rights of freedom; and I have, at the same time, offered to the several States, situated within the tropics, or having colonies there, to negotiate with them, subject to the advice and consent of the Senate, to favor the voluntary emigration of persons of that class to their respective territories, upon conditions which shall be equal, just and humane.

Liberia and Hayti are, as yet, the only countries to which exodus of African descent from here, could go with certainty of being received and adopted as citizens; and I regret to say such persons contemplating colonization, do not seem willing to migrate to those countries as to any others, nor, as we may, as I think, their interest demands. I believe, however, opinion among them in this respect is improving, and that our foreign friends will be augmented under existing circumstances to both these countries from the United States.

The disbursements during the same period were for Congressional, Executive, and Judicial purposes, \$5,939,000.23; for foreign interests, \$1,336,710.33; for miscellaneous expenses, including the mint, loans, post offices, collection of revenue, and other like charges, \$14,129,771.50; for the expenses under War Department, \$3,102,945.52; under War Department, \$394,268,405.36; for interest on public debt, \$13,590,324.45; and for payment of public debt, including repayments of temporary loan and redemptions, \$96,469.50. The remainder, 2,257,530.80 was the balance from last year.

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